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**DIGEST OF OTHER RECENT VIRGINIA DECISIONS.****Supreme Court of Appeals.**

Note.—In this department we give the syllabus of every case decided by the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, except of such cases as are reported in full.

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**JEFFERSON v. SCHOOL BOARD OF AMELIA COUNTY.**

March 14, 1912.

[74 S. E. 164.]

**Schools and School Districts (§ 65\*)—School Land—Sale—Confirmation—Nature of Proceedings.**—Code 1904, § 1466a, as amended by Acts 1910, c. 243, provides that a school board may petition the circuit court, or a judge thereof, to sell school property, and on evidence that such sale or exchange is proper the court or judge may order a sale or exchange, provided that, if the property is sold, it shall be sold to the highest bidder at public auction after due notice, etc. Held, that a proceeding under such section was an ex parte proceeding, in which the court or judge was expected to exercise discretion, so that, where a sale was made subject to confirmation, an order, at the instance of the school trustees, directing that the property be reoffered because of alleged inadequacy of offer at the first sale, did not constitute an abuse of discretion, so as to justify reversal at the instance of the bidder.

[Ed. Note.—For other cases, see Schools and School Districts, Cent. Dig. §§ 162-167; Dec. Dig. § 65.\* 8 Va.-W. Va. Enc. Dig. 722.]

Appeal from Circuit Court, Amelia County.

Application by the School Board of Amelia County for the sale of land purchased for school purposes. A sale having been made to John G. Jefferson, the trustees applied for a nonconfirmation for inadequacy of price, to which application Jefferson filed objections. From an order refusing confirmation, he appeals. Affirmed.

*J. G. Jefferson, Jr.*, for appellant.

*Thos. R. Hardaway, Atty. Gen.*, for appellee.

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**HOFFMAN v. SHARTLE et al.**

March 14, 1912.

[74 S. E. 171.]

**1. Trial (§ 340\*)—Reduction of Verdict—Power of Court.**—The trial court, in exercising its right to reduce a verdict, may not act arbitrarily; and where the issue is the quantum of damages, and

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\*For other cases see same topic and section NUMBER in Dec. Dig. & Am. Dig. Key No. Series & Rep'r Indexes.